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STAINING METHOD WITH CHROMIC ACID PRECURSORS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of staining a biological specimen in an automated staining protocol includes contacting the biological specimen with two or more precursors of a staining reagent. When combined, the precursors form the staining reagent or have the same effects on the biological specimen as the staining reagent. Preferably, the precursors are more compatible with the liquid dispensers employed in their delivery than is the staining reagent. In one example, a GMS protocol employs, instead of chromic acid, a combination of perchloric acid and sodium chromate.